

Using the Google Earth Win Software in Teaching the “World Economic-Social Geography” Course

Artikova Gulnoza Eshmukhammadovna

Doctoral student of the department of “Geography” of Tashkent state pedagogical university named after Nizomi

Abstract: The Google Earth Win application is critical for working with maps, and this article discusses how to organize the "World Economic and Social Geography" lesson offered in the 9th grade of general secondary schools.

Keywords: general secondary schools, the discipline of World economic and social geography, information technology, new approach, geographical maps and Google Earth Win program.

The education system has undergone extensive reforms in recent years, much like other facets of social life in our society. As a result, it is now imperative to raise the standard of the educational system and the ongoing educational process by implementing modern pedagogical and information technologies, and to continuously improve it in order to raise educational effectiveness to that of developed nations.

As part of the concept for the development of the public education system in the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030, which was approved by the Presidential Decree of the Republic of Uzbekistan PD-1712 on April 29, 2019, modern information and communication technologies will be introduced, along with innovative projects in the field of public education; teaching methods will be improved, and teachers and school administration will receive modern ICTs [1].

The accomplishment of these tasks calls for the integration of cutting-edge pedagogical technologies into the educational system, the structuring of contemporary classes using novel and unconventional methods, a teacher with high pedagogical skills, and a contemporary, new method of approaching lesson processes. Today, it is essential for every subject teacher to have a full understanding of the elements determining the lesson's efficacy and the ability to apply those factors throughout the lesson.

As we all know, geography lessons cannot be imagined without maps. Russian geographer N.N. Baransky was right when he said that "Geography begins with a map and ends with a map." [2] Maps and geography are closely intertwined, with "World economic and social geography" being taught in the 9th grade of general secondary schools because maps provide accurate information about the geographic location of the studied countries. Geographical maps have the ability to provide accurate information about a location without actually travelling there. R. Kurbaniozov added the following to his writings in this regard: "Knowing a map and being able to use it means being able to receive diverse information from it, in particular, natural and economic geographic information" [3]. Maps are one of the primary sources that broaden our understanding of the globe.

Geographical maps are split into three categories based on how difficult they are to read:

1. The simplest method of reading a map of a location
2. Complex reading of a geographical map. Particular focus is placed on the object's exterior

aspects. It is possible to develop spatial notions about the relative locations of items on the earth by inferring details about the traits of one object based on the features of another.

3. In the third level of reading a geographic map, the reader draws new conclusions based on the information on the map and their understanding of the local area. On the basis of this, he will learn more [3].

Students should spend as much time as they can in class studying maps because the science of geography is intimately tied to them. In this situation, a geography teacher's primary duties should be to develop in students the following cartographic abilities:

1. Being able to compare and read general geographic, thematic cards;
2. Being able to write a description of geographical objects, regions, countries, natural zones and natural complexes on the basis of a map [4].

However, it might be challenging to remember all of the information at this level, let alone the names and positions of the world's natural and political geographic features. Without being aware of an object's position on the globe, students cannot consciously take in information about it. Another issue is that not every location on the earth's surface is depicted on classroom maps. For instance, not all of the 240+ countries that are listed on the political map of the world in the ninth grade are represented on it. Additionally, pupils can only access a limited amount of information because countries with small areas are represented in numbers.

In order for students to better remember geographical objects, it is necessary to show their landscape, photograph or picture. Such actions will increase the knowledge in the study of maps.

Nowadays, modern information and communication programs have been created for easy and convenient study and memorization of maps and geographical objects, and the "Google Earth Win" program can be used to solve the above-mentioned problems.

Google Earth (*from English Google –Earth, Earth-virtual globus*) is a map and geographic information program, produced by Keyhole Inc. under the name EarthViewer 3D. It was bought by Google in 2004. It displays a three-dimensional map of the earth using satellite and aerial photography images. [7]

It is appropriate to use the Google Earth Win program in geography lessons of all grades in general secondary schools. This program provides practical assistance in the formation of knowledge, skills and abilities of students. It makes the lesson interesting and increases the students' activity.

The advantage of the Google Earth Win program is that students can visually see the geographic objects they are learning through the map in geography classes with the help of the program. This process makes the geography lesson come alive. After the program is installed on the computer, it is possible to see any part of the earth on the basis of this program.

For the program to work, the computer must be connected to the Internet and have a speed of at least 46.6 kb/s [5]. Google Earth Win is a utility that helps students develop geographic knowledge and skills. With its help, students will have the opportunity to see the country, city or natural geographical object related to the topic in a few seconds.

For example, by using this program in the teaching of topics about the countries located in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia and the American continents, which are taught in the "World Economic and Social Geography" course, the students will be able to understand the geographical location of the studied country on the globe, the territory, cities, population and other information are displayed in front of the eyes.

The information about the countries displayed in front of the eyes of the students ensures that they remain in the memory for a long time, and when the students use the school map, they can quickly and easily find the geographical location of the countries. With the help of this program, students' ability to work with maps is formed, while Google Earth Win program increases students' interest in geography.

Nowadays, the tendency of young people to acquire information from the screen is very strong. In the era of increasingly globalized phones and the Internet, students need not only knowledge, but also its vitality. On this topic, Chinese philosopher Confucius said, "If you tell me, I'll forget, if you show me, I'll remember, if I do it myself, I'll understand" and according to another pedagogical scientist K.D. Ushinsky, "We form vivid impressions by seeing, because we imagine what we see with our eyes more easily than what we hear. At the same time, the impression formed with the help of sight, hearing, and muscle movement created a particularly clear image and is stored in the memory for a long time"[6].

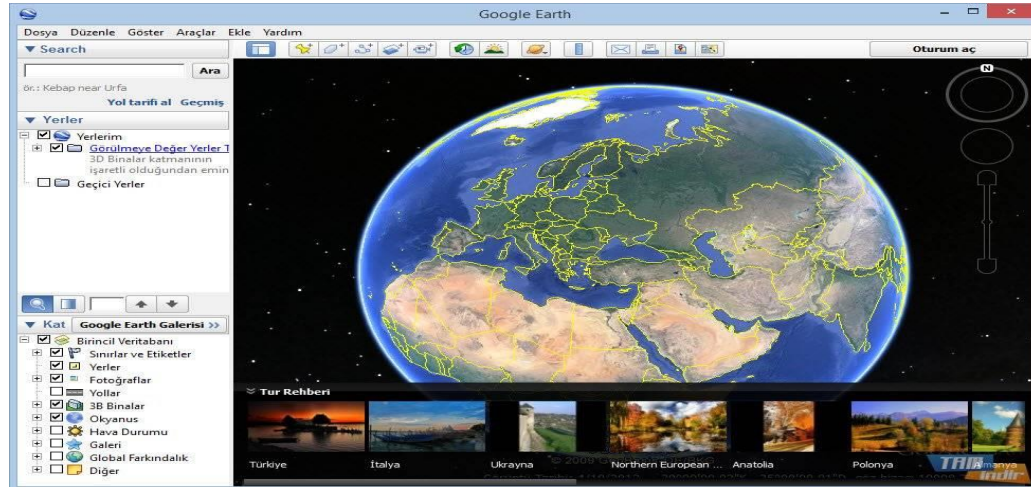


Figure 1. View of Google Earth Win.

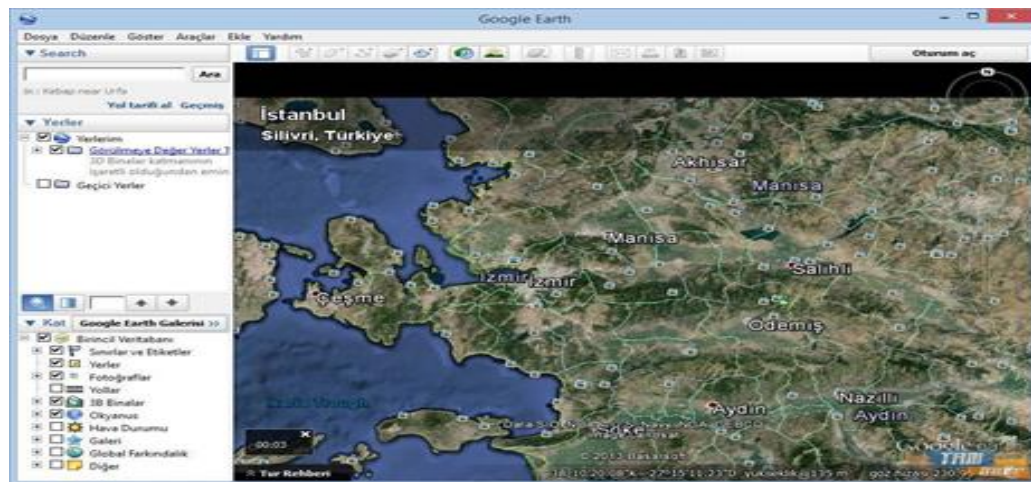


Figure 2. Using Google Earth Win.

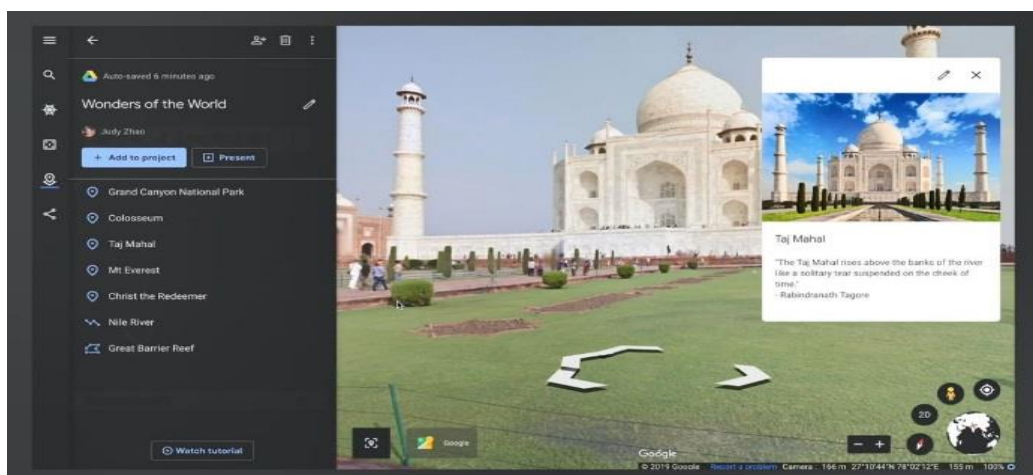


Figure 3. Using Google Earth Win to search for countries.

When using the Google Earth Win program in geography lessons, in particular, when covering the topics of the "World Economic and Social Geography" course and working with maps, the teacher achieves the following results:

1. It is ensured that the training session is demonstrative and lively;
2. Students' knowledge of the studied geographical object is strengthened;
3. During the educational process, favorable conditions are created for the formation of students' qualifications and skills;
4. It will be convenient for students to manage their educational activities;
5. Students' skills such as thinking, working with independent maps are developed;
6. It is ensured that the acquired knowledge of students is kept in memory for a long time;
7. It serves to increase students' ability to work on a computer;
8. Increases students' interest in geography.

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